



Dear Parent/Guardian,

A very warm welcome back to everyone to a new academic year at St. Mary's Primary School and Nursery. I hope you had a pleasant summer holiday! I especially wish to extend a warm welcome to all our new children and their families who have joined the Nursery, Primary 1 and to other stages across the school Please find below information which I hope you find useful.

Pupil Attendance

If your child is absent due to illness we ask if you could do the following:

1. On the morning when the absence starts please telephone the school on 274955 to inform us.
2. When your child returns to school please send a signed letter explaining the reason for your child's absence.
3. If an absence is not reported we will send a text message to alert you to your child's absence. Please acknowledge this message by calling the school.
4. If no contact is made the office will call to establish the reason for the child's absence.

If we are unable to make contact to establish why the child is absent we will need to record the child as missing and contact the police.

It is also important that your child **arrives on time** for school at 9.00a.m. Again, this is monitored and we encourage parents to form good habits so that your child starts his/her day in a calm manner.

Kilbowie

The P7 children will go on their residential visit to Kilbowie between Monday 16th and Friday 20th September. A meeting is arranged for Tuesday the 27th August at 6:30 pm in the school to share information. Please note that the children have 2 methods of paying - by cash to the school office and also online payment.

Parking & Gate

A number of parents have again contacted me with concerns around the parking at the school. Can I please remind you not to park on the yellow zig-zag lines. These areas should be kept clear for the safety of the children as they make their way to and from school.

There were also concerns raised that children are finding it difficult to get through the gates, particularly at the end of the day.

Please leave space at the gate to allow children to pass through the gates.



Allergies

We have children in school who have a range of medical conditions and some are of a severe allergic nature. We ask that you do not give your child any products containing nuts, this includes Nutella, peanut butter and chocolate spread.



Please also refrain from sending in a birthday cake, sweets etc. on your child's special day as some of the children cannot share in this.

We appreciate your co-operation and support in this sensitive and important matter of child safety and in ensuring that no child is made to feel excluded.

Parent Council

The Parent Council AGM will take place on Tuesday 27th at 7:15 pm. All parents/ Carers are welcome to come along to this meeting and future meetings.

PE Kits



Your child will receive two hours of Physical Education each week. To assist the children in being ready to participate in these sessions can I ask that the children bring their PE kit into school on a Monday morning and leave their kit on their pegs to take home with them on a Friday.

Contact details

You will appreciate how important it is that we have the most up to date contact information for each child in the school. As such your child received their annual data check. Please check the information carefully and return the forms to the school as soon as possible. Thank you!

Free School Meal Entitlement

Could I remind parents that if you are in receipt of any of the following you will be entitled to a free school meal and/or a clothing grant:

- Income support
- Jobseeker's allowance (income based)
- Employment & support allowance (income related)
- Universal credit (maximum monthly income of £610)
- Child tax credit with a gross annual income below £16,105 with no element of working tax credit
- Maximum child tax credit and maximum working tax credit with annual income below £6,900
- Support under part v1 of the immigration and asylum act 1999
- Housing benefit
- Council tax reduction

Application forms are available from the school or on line

<https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=21806&p=0>

and also at First stop Shops.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Francis McIntyre

Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

Please find below the overview for the School holidays and term dates for session 2019/20



September weekend holidays:

Friday 27 September to Monday 30 September

October break:

Monday 14 October 2019 to Friday 18 October 2019

In-service day: Monday 18 November 2019

In-service day: Tuesday 19 November 2019

Christmas and New Year Holidays:

Friday 20 December 2019 – Friday 3 January 2020

School closes at 2.30 on Thursday 19 December

School returns on Monday 6 January 2020

Mid-term break: Monday 10 Feb and Tuesday 11 Feb

In service Day: Wednesday 12 February 2020

In Service Day: Thursday 13 February 2020

Easter Holiday:

Monday 6 April 2020 to Friday 17 April 2020 (inclusive)

May day holiday: Friday 8 May 2020

In-service day: Monday 11 May 2020

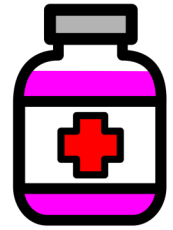
May weekend holiday:

Friday 22 May 2020 and Monday 25 May 2020

School closes: Wednesday 24 June 2020

Medicine

If your child has medication that requires administered in school you must complete a medical form. These are available from the school office. Once the form is filled in please return it along with the medication. We cannot administer any medication unless we have a completed form signed and returned to the school.



Flu Immunisation

Can I remind you that the children will receive their flu immunisation on Friday 31st October. NHS Staff will visit the school and administer the vaccine to the children. If you haven't returned the letter please do as soon as possible

School Uniform



The children have all returned looking very smart in their uniform. Many thanks for your support and commitment to the children wearing our school uniform. Can I remind you to please label all the uniform as if the clothes get mixed up it is very difficult identify individuals clothes.

Trim Trail

The trim trail is now installed and will be ready to use very soon. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parent Council and the whole parent body, past and present who supported the fundraising efforts to provide this resource for the children. I am sure the children